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**SSM Weight-Loss Institute at DePaul Health Center Renews its Bariatric Surgery Center of Excellence® Distinction**

ST. LOUIS, MO (February 18, 2014) – The SSM Weight-Loss Institute at DePaul Health Center has once again been designated as a Bariatric Surgery Center of Excellence® by the American Society for Metabolic and Bariatric Surgery (ASMBS BSCOE).

This is a three-year accreditation, and the recent evaluation noted that the hospital was committed to providing quality improvement and patient safety for bariatric surgery patients.

"As an accredited program, SSM Weight-Loss Institute has demonstrated that they meet the needs of bariatric surgery patients by providing multidisciplinary, high-quality patient-centered care," said David Provost, M.D., FASMBS, Chair, ASMBS Bariatric Surgery Review Committee. "We want to thank you for all that you do to meet those needs of the bariatric community. Congratulations on this achievement."

"This recertification means that SSM Weight-Loss Institute continues to provide the best care and results to our patients who are looking to make their lives more healthy through weight-loss surgery," said Patsy Beeson, director, SSM Weight-Loss Institute. "We offer the best comprehensive program for weight-loss, and receiving this recognition through ASBMS simply attests to our dedication of providing quality and safety for our patients on their journey."

If you are interested in learning more about weight-loss surgery options, visit [www.ssmhealth.com/weightloss](http://www.ssmhealth.com/weightloss), or to attend a free SSM Weight-Loss Institute educational seminar, [click here to register](#).

**About SSM Weight-Loss Institute**

*A service of SSM Health Care – St. Louis, SSM Weight-Loss Institute is committed to relieving suffering from clinically severe obesity. SSM Weight-Loss Institute offers breakthrough surgical and non-surgical options at SSM DePaul Health Center that can be tailored to fit a patient's weight-loss goals. Surgeons from SSM Weight-Loss Institute have performed more than 3,000 life-changing and life-saving weight-loss surgeries to help patients to lead healthier, happier lives. A non-surgical medically supervised diet and exercise program called HMR® (Health Management Resources) is another SSM Weight-Loss Institute service. For more information, go to [www.ssmhealth.com/weightloss](http://www.ssmhealth.com/weightloss).*

**About SSM DePaul Health Center**

*SSM DePaul Health Center is a 478-bed, full-service hospital and a member of SSM Health Care-St. Louis located at the intersection of Interstates 70 and 270 in North St. Louis County. Founded in 1828, DePaul was the first hospital west of the Mississippi River and remains the*

SSM HEALTH CARE – ST. LOUIS INCLUDES

Cardinal Glennon Children's Medical Center • DePaul Health Center • St. Clare Health Center • St. Joseph Health Center  
St. Joseph Health Center – Wentzville • St. Joseph Hospital of Kirkwood • St. Joseph Hospital West • St. Mary's Health Center

*oldest continuously existing business in St. Louis. Today DePaul is a Joint Commission-certified Primary Stroke Center, operates the only Level II Trauma Center in its service region and offers the most advanced technology and procedures available including minimally invasive heart, spine, knee, hip and weight loss surgery. DePaul also operates the most comprehensive robotic surgical program in the region and is two-time recipient of the Missouri Quality Award and a Premier QUEST High Performing Hospital. To learn more, visit [www.ssmdepaul.com](http://www.ssmdepaul.com).*

***About the American Society for Metabolic and Bariatric Surgery (ASMBS):***

*The vision of the Society is to improve public health and well-being by lessening the burden of the disease of obesity and related diseases throughout the world. Founded in 1983, foremost American surgeons have formed the society's leadership and have established an excellent organization with educational and support programs for surgeons and integrated health professionals. The purpose of the society is to advance the art and science of metabolic and bariatric surgery by continually improving the quality and safety of care and treatment of people with obesity and related diseases by:*

- Advancing the science of metabolic and bariatric surgery and increase public understanding of obesity.*
- Fostering collaboration between health professionals on obesity and related diseases.*
- Providing leadership in metabolic and bariatric surgery the multidisciplinary management of obesity.*
- Advocating for health care policy that ensures patient access to prevention and treatment of obesity.*
- Serving the educational needs of our members, the public and other professionals.*

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